

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 221522

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CVIS, PINT, KN, JA, US

SUBJECT: QUAKER INVITATION TO CHOSEN SOREN MEMBERS TO
VISIT U.S.

REF: TOKYO 15065, 77 TOKYO 4485

1. MS ROBERTA LEVENBACH, AFSC COORDINATOR FOR EAST AND SOUTH ASIA PROGRAMS, 30 AUGUST CALLED ON EA/K (RICH) TO DISCUSS INVITATION TO CHOSEN SOREN MEMBERS TO VISIT U.S. (REFTELS). LEVENBACH EXPLAINED THAT AFSC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN JULY ISSUED AN INVITATION TO KIM AND CHOE FOR A SERIES OF SMALL MEETINGS WITH ACADEMICS AND AFSC MEMBERS ACROSS THE U.S. AFSC FORESEES VISIT OF SIX WEEKS TO TWO MONTHS AND BELIEVES THAT VISIT WILL PROMOTE "BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF NORTH KOREA THROUGH PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE CONTACTS."

2. WE INFORMED LEVENBACH THAT, WHILE DEPARTMENT SUPPORTS
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PRINCIPLE OF FREE TRAVEL AND INCREASED PERSONAL CONTACTS, VISIT BY CHOSEN SOREN REPS IS NOT A SIMPLE MATTER. AS IN ALL OTHER NON-IMMIGRANT VISA CASES, USG MUST HAVE ASSURANCE THAT VISITORS INTEND AND ARE ABLE TO DEPART AT END OF VISIT. IN PRESENT CASE, CHOSEN SOREN VISITORS WOULD HAVE TO PRESENT JAPANESE RE-ENTRY PERMITS ALONG WITH OTHER APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTATION. ONCE DOCUMENTATION PRODUCED,

USG AGENCIES WOULD CONSIDER APPLICATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH U.S. LAW, INCLUDING SPECIAL WAIVER PROCEDURES, NECESSARY BECAUSE OF NATURE OF CHOSEN SOREN'S RELATIONSHIP WITH DPRK GOVERNMENT. REVIEW WOULD TAKE AT LEAST TWO WEEKS AFTER APPLICATION TO CONSUL.

3. LEVENBACH PLANS TO CONTACT TOKYO AFSC OFFICE TO LEARN STATUS OF JAPANESE RE-ENTRY PERMITS AND TO URGE VISA APPLICATION IF RECEIVED. AFSC IS PLANNING TENTATIVELY FOR VISIT THIS AUTUMN. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 31 aug 1978
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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